

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Applicants have attempted to address every objection and ground for rejection in the final Office Action dated August 11, 2005 (Paper No. 20050809), or in better form for appeal.

Applicants appreciate the continued acknowledgement of allowable subject matter in claims 12, 14-25, 27, 28 and 30 if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1-11, 13, 26, 29 and 31-33 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,712,637 to Rosa et al.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-11, 26, 30 and 33, without prejudice. The claims currently pending are 12-25, 27-29 and 31-32, which include the allowable claims rewritten in independent form to place the same in condition for allowance. Specifically:

Allowable claim 12 has been amended to include independent claim 7 and intervening claim 11. Claim 13 depends from claim 12.

Allowable claim 14 has been amended to include independent claim 7. Claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 14.

Allowable claim 17 has been amended to include independent claim 7. Claims 18 and 19 depend from claim 17.

Allowable claim 20 has been amended to include independent claim

7. Claims 21 and 22 depend from claim 20.

Allowable claim 23 has been amended to include independent claim

7. Claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 23.

Allowable claim 27 has been amended to include independent claim

7 and intervening claim 26. Claim 28 depends from claim 27.

Independent claim 29 has been amended to include the allowable

subject matter of claim 30. Claims 31 and 32 depend from claim 29.

Applicants submit that in view of the above-identified amendments and remarks, the claims in their present form are patentably distinct over the art of record. Allowance of the rejected claims is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner discover there are remaining issues which may be resolved by a telephone interview, he is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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